

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A negative active material for a rechargeable lithium battery is provided. The negative active material includes a core and a carbon shell formed around the core. The core includes a crystalline carbon, an amorphous carbon or a mixture thereof, and the carbon shell includes an amorphous carbon with a metal selected from a transition metal, a semi-metal, an alkali metal or an alkali earth metal.

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~~A negative active material preparation includes the steps of mixing an amorphous carbon precursor with a compound including a metal selected from a transition metal, a semi-metal, an alkali metal or an alkali earth metal and adding the mixture to an organic solvent to prepare an amorphous carbon precursor solution. Next, the amorphous carbon precursor solution is coated with a crystalline carbon, an amorphous carbon or a mixture thereof. In the method, the coating step and an agglomerating step may be performed at the same time.~~